

Student Unions Vow Support For Palestine Revolution

Student unions and organizations representing nearly 20 countries from four continents have recently resolved to endorse Palestinian freedom fighters in their struggle to liberate their homeland and to establish a democratic state in Palestine where Jews, Muslims and Christians will have equal rights and obligations, irrespective of race, sex, color or creed.

Support for the Palestine revolution and its objectives was expressed in an official statement at the closing session of the International Seminar, «University Today», held in Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia, August 15-25.

The statement was signed by the student unions and organizations of Yugoslavia (USU), The Netherlands (NSR), Poland (ZSP), The Soviet Union (SCUSSR), Bolivia (CUB), Slovakia (ZVS), Ireland (USI), Kenya (SUUC), Finland (SYL), Tunisia (UGET), India (NCUSI), Hungary (NSHOC), Morocco (UNEM), Bohemia and Moravia (SUS), Palestine (GUPB), Japan (ZENKAKUREN), the United Arab Republic (GUSUAR), Ecuador (SC), Bulgaria (SC), and Portugal (SEEFEE) as well as the International Union of Students (IUS), the Committee of Student European Associations (CSEA), and the International People's Friendship Club, Belgrad (KMP).

The statement said the signatories «believe in the role of the national and international student movements in leading the student body toward a better society which would eliminate the exploitation of man to man and which would be free of colonialism, imperialism and racism.»

It asserted the need to mobilize the student and popular masses in support of the just struggle of the people under oppression in Asia, Africa and Latin America, particularly in Vietnam, Palestine, Rhodesia, Angola, the Mozambique, South Africa, Guinea and Nigeria.

The statement concluded «Zionist presence in Palestine part of the imperialistic interference in the Middle East to strike against national movements in the area.» It said «the armed struggle waged by the vanguard of the Palestinian people is the decisive means to force recognition of the people's right to self-determination and national liberation.»

The statement concluded «We consequently support the struggle of the Palestinian liberation fighters to establish a democratic state in Palestine in which Palestinians — Muslims, Christians and Jews — would enjoy equal rights...»

Al-Fateh Commandos Overrun Enemy Settlement in Galilee

ASSIFA commandos of the Palestine National Liberation Movement, Al-Fateh, September 21 overrun, destroyed and set on fire an enemy settlement and two military posts south of the Sea of Galilee.

A spokesman for the Palestine Armed Struggle Command said the operation, named after Palestinian martyr Abdul Kader al-Hasani, resulted in heavy enemy casualties.

The overrun targets included Kfar Ruppin settlement and Tel Kayed and Tel Tliha outposts.

Although the operation, the PASC spokesman

said, al-Fateh commandos had complete control over the area and cut all enemy communications and assistance.

He said enemy posts were overrun after an hour-long battle during which ASSIFA commandos silenced all enemy fire except for continuous, aimless mortar shelling coming from another area.

While ASSIFA men returned safely to base carrying three of their wounded comrades, enemy helicopters and ambulances were seen racing to the blazing area, the spokesman stated. He described enemy losses as extremely high, both in lives and property.

INFORMATION OFFICE, PALESTINE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT, AL-FATEH

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ESCALATION CONTINUES

Al-Fateh Commandos Launch Massive Attack on 40km. Jordan Valley Front

ASSIFA commandos of the Palestine National Liberation Movement, Al-Fateh, launched September 18 a massive night attack on 10 Israeli positions extending over a 40-kilometer Jordan Valley front from Shuwayr in the north to the Dead Sea in the south.

The announcement was made September 19 by a military spokesman for the Palestinian Armed Struggle Command. He described Israeli casualties and equipment losses as heavy.

The spokesman said «Operation Farhan al-Saadi» started at 7 p.m., September 18, when several ASSIFA units penetrated into occupied territory supported by medium and heavy mortar and engineering squads.

The attack was launched at 8:15 p.m. against enemy posts at Umm Sidra, Tamouniyyeh, Qunaratina, Umm el-Wattad, Tellet el-Najjar, Mendasah and Umm Nakhlah, shortly after the engineering squad had opened several gaps in the enemy's defense lines.

By 9 p.m., the ASSIFA offensive had extended to include three other posts at Shuwayr, Junaidiyyeh and Turkmaniyyeh — as well as a number of advanced ambushes.

Several posts were overrun by the ASSIFA freedom fighters in running battles of confrontation which lasted over two hours.

A number of the enemy sources of heavy artillery and land-to-land rockets which tried to intervene against the ASSIFA commandos were silenced.

An attempt by Israeli helicopters to drop reinforcements was foiled by

the ASSIFA men. A similar attempt by the enemy to rush motorized troops into the battle area was also foiled.

The ASSIFA forces started to pullout to their bases under heavy cover at 11:30 p.m. The pullout was completed at about 1 a.m., September 19.

Enemy ambulances and rescue squads were seen evacuating casualties throughout the night. ASSIFA casualties were limited to two injuries.

As reported by Reuters and Agence France Press, journalists and villagers watched from a hill on the River Jordan's East Bank as ASSIFA commandos attacked the Israeli positions on the occupied West Bank.

According to Reuters' «Machine gun and mortar fire and rockets were visible in the night sky in a cross-fire from both sides.»

The massive raid marks another step in the escalation of the popular armed struggle for the liberation of Palestine which was started by Al-Fateh's military arm on New Year's Day in 1965.

In fact, shortly after the June War of 1967, Al-Fateh started to move from its «protection base» in Syria to its «pillar base» on the East Bank. There, it enjoyed national immunity, mass support and sufficient armed forces for protection and confrontation.

Shortly after Al-Fateh consolidated its bases on the East Bank, the enemy attempted to uproot them by launching a vast but unsuccessful retaliatory operation against Al-Karamah on March 21, 1968 with the intent of occupying the heights on

the East Bank of the River Jordan.

The battle of Al-Karamah which witnessed the defeat of the enemy and his withdrawal marked a new phase in the revolutionary war. Al-Fateh moved from the «hit and run» phase to that of «limited war of confrontation.» The latter phase implies confrontation with the enemy in short and open battles with the intention of annihilating the largest number of his troops and destroying their morale.

The battle of Al-Karamah, which was planned and fought out by Al-Fateh, aimed at realizing the following objectives:

1. Consolidation of the idea of steadfastness before the enemy's offensive so as to raise the morale of the Palestinian and Arab masses in the wake of the June setback.

2. Destruction of the enemy's morale by inflicting on his forces the heaviest losses possible.

3. Realization of complete integration between the revolution and the masses and increasing the people's confidence in the fedayeen and their ability to confront and defeat the enemy.

Israeli «Defense»

Analysing «defense» outlays in the Middle East, the British Institute for Strategic Studies says Israel is spending the highest proportion of its Gross National Product on «defense», at 16.1 percent, or 24.2 dollars per head in 1968.

Israel's «defense» outlays in 1969 amounted to \$ 829 million — the highest individual outlay in the Middle East area.

4. Increasing the rapprochement between the fedayeen and the Jordan Army through a common battle.

5. Liquidation of counter-revolutionary forces on the East Bank by discrediting their doubts about commando action in the ability to confront the enemy and protect the masses.

6. Pulling the rug from under the feet of the proponents of the political solution by raising the confidence of the Arab masses in their ability to achieve victories in a popular war led by its commando vanguard.

7. Testing the confidence of the commandos themselves and their ability to move into the phase of limited confrontation in all operations.

These objectives were achieved by al-Fateh at Al-Karamah. Its freedom fighters did subsequently adopt the second stage of strategy — namely the war of limited confrontation. They were able to score victories in most of the battles which they fought... Simultaneously their battle experience developed and they acquainted themselves with the enemy's tactics and his military potentials.

The revolutionary war in Palestine thus moved into a third phase — that of «mobile war», whereby large numbers of fighters would attack an enemy post or stronghold, occupy it for several hours clear it and then return to base.

This was implemented for the first time at al-Himneh on May 2, 1969. The occupied town, famous for its mineral and therapeutic waters, was held for three hours af-

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AL-FATEH AND THE LEFT

Notwithstanding the variegated definitions of the Left in general, it can be safely stated that all genuine Leftist movements seek to end man's exploitation of man, start by refusing a given condition or structure and proceed to change it by resistance or struggle and revolt.

The apex of struggle is armed struggle and, in such context, al-Fateh is more leftist than anything. No only does it militantly reject its status quo or given condition, but its rejection is a practical one — it is active and dynamic.

Within this frame of reference, the Communist Party in Jordan for instance is Rightist because it has failed to join the national movement which has taken up arms to change the status it has rejected.

There are variances as well in World Socialist experiences, from Yugoslavia to Poland, to Russia and China.

As long as there are such differences over the social content of these experiences and as long as every social content is inevitably changing with time, it is not easy to predict the future and define, outright, a theoretical social content for the Palestine revolution.

Nevertheless, al-Fateh believes that the social content for the Palestine revolution is bound to safeguard two basic objectives:

1. Doing away with man's exploitation of man.
2. Implementing social justice.

Al-Fateh is already putting these two broad objectives to practice.

To accuse al-Fateh of having bourgeois inclinations just for not restricting the Palestine revolutionary struggle to the class of peasants and workers is, to say the least, unfair. The authors of such accusations ignore the fact that al-Fateh represents a peculiar but wider class — the class of uprooted, displaced and oppressed Palestinians.

Eight Gaza Citizens Sentenced by Enemy

GAZA — An Israeli military court sentenced Sept. 11 a 25 year old Palestinian to 20 years imprisonment on charges of holding a large number of weapons belonging to the Palestine National Liberation Movement, al-Fateh.

Abdallah Abu - Khosah was also convicted of hurling grenades against the occupants in Gaza City and possessing arms and mines.

The day before, on September 11, three other Palestinian Arab resistants were sentenced to terms ranging from 15 years to 18 months imprisonment in this occupied city for resistance activities.

Naim el-Kidra, 29, accused of blowing up culverts in the southern part of the Gaza Strip, was sentenced to 15 years.

His 18 year old brother, Sabri, was jailed for five years on the same charges.

Rizak el-Dayuk, 63,

convicted of possessing sub-machineguns, received a lighter 18-month term in view of his age.

On Sept. 8, four other alleged members of commando groups in the occupied Gaza Strip were jailed for terms ranging from eight to 20 years.

New Zionist Propagandist

LONDON — Zvi Harmer, born Harold Halmer 45 years ago in Leeds, has arrived in London from Israel recently to open a propaganda bureau to spearhead a new Zionist campaign in Britain and Western Europe.

Officially, his job is to maintain «fraternal» contact with the Socialist International which has its headquarters in London. Unofficially, he will be trying to undermine support for the Palestine revolution particularly by the New Left.

AL-FATEH AS A MOVEMENT

The Palestine National Liberation Movement, al-Fateh, is neither a Party nor a Front. It is a Movement.

The Party has a fixed social ideology. The Front groups organizations within the context of a specific plan of action.

The basic elements of a Movement is dynamism. It accepts basic principles as well as assumptions but subjects its thoughts to practice and experience. Through motion and dynamism the Movement builds its intellectual content.

Al-Fateh does not believe in inertia nor in static reasoning. It has basic principles and conceptions. But its intellectual content cannot crystallize except through dynamic and pragmatic experience. Its dynamism is cybernetic. This cybernetic dynamism is essential for the success of an active Movement like al-Fateh.

Theory is the offspring of experience and practice is a test for thoughts and positions.

Al-Fateh is in continuous motion, subjecting all its conceptions and policies to practice, modifying and altering them to the point where it can use this mental goal to build its intellectual content.

Thus, as a Movement, al-Fateh refuses to be static and cannot delineate the man of the future through metaphysical reasoning.

A Lasting Peace or the Seeds of War ?

«A peace, to be lasting, must leave no seeds of a future war», so uttered American's Richard Nixon before delegates from 126 countries at the United Nations General Assembly on September 18.

The leader of the «free» world carried on to say, «we are convinced that peace cannot be achieved on the basis of substantial alterations in the map of the Middle East... Failing a settlement, an agreement on the limitation of the shipment of arms to the Middle East might help to stabilize the situation.»

Nixon's statement confirmed the general press reports suggesting a new strategy of U.S. action in the Middle East, engineered by Henry Kissinger, Joseph Sisco et al. Like Johnson, Nixon considers the Palestine Problem as part of the game of big power politics. The human or legal aspects of the problem and the inalienable rights of the Palestinians are of no concern to him.

The general strategy of the United States in the Middle East has centered around the outlook that the 1967 Israeli victory was an American victory, that this victory should be maintained and, as such, a new war should be prevented. The only hope the U.S. saw in preventing a seemingly inevitable slide into another war was with effective outside intervention.

In the past two years, this U.S. strategy of intervention was seen through joint U.S. — Soviet pressures on both the Arabs and Israel.

However, the Libyan coup and the Soviet naval build-up in the Mediterranean in response to U.S. moves in Asia and Eastern Europe led the U.S. to change its tactics and opt to consolidate her position in the region as well as prevent an all-out war by strengthening Israel further.

At the same time, the U.S. calculated that her new tactics may isolate it in the Middle East and might affect her vital oil interests (despite the propaganda she is spreading, here and elsewhere, about Alaskan oil fields).

To avoid sharpening her difficulties with the Arabs the U.S. therefore resorted to show the Arabs that they need her more than she needs them (as she is advertising particularly in Lebanon) and, at the same time, requested from Israel restraint from con-

quering new Arab land. To sell Israel these new tactics the U.S. had to pay a price.

The price was negotiated around the interests of both Israel and the U.S. which are, thanks to Kissinger et al, compatible. Both saw that the toughening of the Arab stand and the increasing confidence in their military power is an alarming position. Thus they both sought to destroy the Arabs confidence in their military ability to win a major war by guaranteeing Israel's military superiority.

Guaranteeing Israel's superiority was what Israel is presently asking for and what America is willing to pay if Israel plays the game of power politics her way. Briefly, this game in the Middle East consists of maintaining the 1967 ceasefire line until a «lasting» (othwaive) settlement is reached, and restricting a military superior Israel to hold her present lines while hitting at the neighbouring Arab states in surprise moves behind the lines.

The aim of this new American strategy is to humiliate the Arabs and force them to seriously consider the U.S. terms for submissive settlement. At the same time this strategy assures Israel that she no longer needs to launch full scale pre-emptive war but merely needs to launch deterrent strikes more than before.

On September 11 Moshe Dayan told the Washington correspondent that Israel «is not for setting itself the objectives of conquering areas of strategic importance deep within enemy territory... In addition to defending our present lines, we shall deliver counter blows along their length and breadth.»

With this new strategy in mind Israel launched its recent raid across the Gulf of Suez. The raid was carried out with Washington's approval and advance knowledge. It is no coincidence that the raid occurred shortly after the arrival of the first shipment of U.S. Phantom to Israel.

A peace, to be lasting, must leave no seeds of a future war — perhaps is the most profound statement Nixon uttered. But the «seeds of a future war» can only be eliminated through recognition of the inalienable rights of the Arab Palestinians to their usurped and occupied homeland.



This is the cover of a pamphlet which has just been issued by the Information Office of the Palestine National Liberation Movement, al-Fateh. Copies of the 13-page pamphlet which deals briefly with the history of the Palestine problem, the emergence of al-Fateh, as well as its aims, objectives and position vis-a-vis Israel, the Arab Countries and the United Nations can be obtained by writing to Post Box 5427, Beirut, Lebanon.

«A PRISONER OF MY ENEMY»

«IT PAINS ME NOT TO BE ABLE TO OFFER MORE»

«A Jewish leader is an al-Patch man», ran the headline in the Israeli magazine «Ha'olam Hazeh» (This World) of March 20, 1968.

Kamal al-Namari, the subject of this article in the Israeli magazine, is indeed a Jewish descendent. His mother came from the wealthy Kleiner orthodox Jewish family — her elder brother, Moshe, is the general manager of the Mizrahi Bank in East Jerusalem, while her second brother, Abraham, is one of the prominent leaders of the Histadrut.

But Kamal is a Palestinian first. His life symbolizes the plight of all Palestinians: Jews, Muslims, and Christians alike. He is a living example of the tragedy of his nation. Kamal was sentenced to life imprisonment in Israel for participating in a number of commando operations. He was arrested while writing a report about a successful operation to the Higher Command of the Palestine National Liberation Movement, al-Patch. Directly after his arrest, the Israeli authorities took him to the Abu Ghosh area in Jerusalem where they blew his family's house as an immediate punishment. «You can blow our homes but we never be able to take away our lands with you», was



Kamal's reaction.

But prison can not kill Kamal's love, nor that of hundreds of Palestinians in Israeli jails, for their country. «I consider this prison term as a mere vacation and a period of study...but it pains me not to be able to offer more», wrote Kamal to his brother.

«I'm solid as steel and with a firing morale...I am learning new things every day...and believe me, brother, our path is unambiguous now,» he added in the same letter. He wrote further: «Precious blood has been shed but it's the price for what we strive to achieve. No matter how high the price is, our goal is more precious».

Kamal's faith in his

cause is endless. «I hope next year we will be together in Jerusalem», he wrote to his mother in another letter.

Born in Palestine in 1940, of a Jewish mother and a Muslim father, Kamal is «a firm believer in the necessity of armed struggle for the liberation of Palestine from the yoke of Zionist occupation and injustice».

After the 1948 exodus, Kamal remained with his family on the West Bank of the Jordan valley. He later studied architecture at Cairo University, then returned to Jerusalem only to find himself again confronted with war in 1967. Cut off from his family who by then had moved to Kuwait, from his fiancée in Egypt, and from his land which was expropriated by Israel, Kamal faced a bleak future under the Israeli occupation of Jerusalem.

According to the Israeli paper «Ha'olam Hazeh» this «handsome, blue-eyed young man enjoyed increasing popularity among the Israelis and was close to their hearts. He was active in pursuing his hobby of shooting pictures and in touring all possible Israeli cities...»

A prisoner of the enemy now, Kamal's only complaint is that he is not able to actively offer more.

Ramleh, 31/10/1968
My Beloved Brother,

Good greetings, hoping that you and all are in good health. I received your last letter in which you mention that you got only two of my letters. To be frank, I didn't expect any to reach you. There is no need to elaborate further.

As you can tell, I'm still fine; as solid as steel and with a firing morale. My faith in the motto we used to chant always — «Blood, Steel, Fire» — increase every day.

I am learning new things every day under my present conditions and believe me, brother, our path is unambiguous now. As long as we follow this path we shall not deviate. Precious blood has been shed but it is the price for what we strive to achieve. No mat-

Historical Background of Resistance in Palestine

In 1915, Sharif Hussein of Mecca, the ruler of the Hejaz under the Ottoman Empire, sent his younger son Faisal to Damascus. Faisal's mission was to make contact with the leaders of the Syrian nationalist movement (1). He returned on June 15th, like Noah's dove, bringing news of the region. He also brought with him a document which has since become known as the Damascus Protocol. This protocol contained the necessary conditions for the nationalists' co-operation with Britain in her war against the Turks. They included, among other things, that the independence of the Fertile Crescent and the Hejaz be recognized under the leadership of Hussein. In return preferential defense and economic treaties would be drawn up with Britain.

The nationalist movement was formed from a number of secret societies which had first appeared in Syria at the turn of the century. Originally their aim was merely decentralization and autonomy within the framework of the Ottoman Empire. Many Arabs before this had even worked with the Young Ottoman Movement as members of the «Committee of Union and Progress». After this rise to power in Istanbul

however, the CUP had become steadily more Turkish in orientation, and the Arabs had been obliged to leave it and to form their own societies and parties. As disillusion with Turkish rule increased, ideas of autonomy began to replace the ideas of complete independence.

As a result of the publication of the Damascus Protocol in August 1915, Gamal Faisal, the Turkish Governor of Syria, swiftly rounded up and executed a large number of leaders and suspected leaders of the nationalist movement. More executions followed in May 1916. There is no doubt that at this time the main enemies of the nationalists were seen to be the Ottoman Turks.

The nationalist movement had adopted various forms of struggle at different periods. Initially it had formed secret literary and political clubs. Later these became public and held a number of conferences and panels. Ultimately the movement developed into an armed revolt which the British, together with Sharif Hussein's forces attacked in Syria in 1916.

With the conclusion of World War I, and in spite of the many promises of independence which had been made, Syria was im-

mediately occupied and its territory divided between Britain and France. Thus the first phase of the nationalist movement ended with the British replacing the Ottoman in Palestine.

The phase of conflict and racial strife

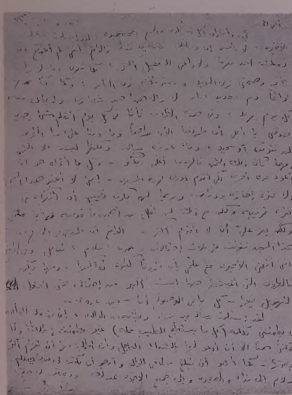
In an oral declaration, Mr. Hani al-Husseini, one of the leaders of the Palestinian nationalist movement during the Mandate, stated that a delegation of nationalist leaders had met with the British Military Governor of Palestine in 1918. They had expressed their apprehension concerning the possible consequences of the Balfour Declaration and the Governor had advised them to follow the example of the Jews in requesting a National Home.

As a result of this meeting, «Islamic - Christian societies» were formed in every possible city and village with the purpose of demanding from the British Government the annulment of the Balfour Declaration. Between 1918 and 1939 three of these societies convened about ten conferences and sent three delegations to negotiate with the British Government in London.

Throughout this period it was the Zionists who were seen as the main enemy of Arab nationalist hopes in Palestine, and thus conflict tended to be along racial and religious lines. In 1939, the Shaw «Commission was sent to investigate the causes of the large scale Arab revolt which had begun in 1936. The Commission reported that the underlying causes were Arab feelings of hatred and distrust towards the Zionists and stated that the basic reason for this hatred was the failure of the Arabs' own political and national aspirations together with fears for their economic future».

The racial and religious character of the struggle at this time was largely a result of misunderstanding and of the inadequacy and inefficiency of the feudal-type leadership. This had been helped by Britain's conscious deflection of the resistance movement into certain channels so that it was directed at the Jews as a religious group. In this way

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ter how high the price is, our goal is more precious. All that I hope for now is to be able to resume my work on our march once more. I consider this prison term as a mere vacation and a period of study. Perhaps it won't be my lot to leave it in the near future. I do not underestimate what I have contributed in the past, but it pains me not to be able to offer more. Actually, the chance of my leaving this prison depends on three possibilities: war, peace, or exchange of prisoners. I hope for the latter though I know that numerous factors stand in its way. In any case, the conditions I am facing here are not beyond my endurance. All I want is that I should be a prisoner of my enemy. I received a letter from Suhad (1) and a card

from Mother. (2) My mother's condition worries me. The statement «all what this doctor can do is not in the least assuring. I can do nothing but to pray for her speedy recovery and ask her to pay more attention to her health».

Please give my regards to Father. I hope that he will write me soon. Greetings to Feda, to the baby, and to all the brethren at your end.

Your brother
KAMAL

1 — Suhad, a student at the American University at Cairo, is Kamal's fiancée. Their wedding was to take place in March 1968.

2 — At the time Kamal was writing this letter, his mother lay in bed, nearly dead in a hospital in Germany. She never received her son's letter.

Palestine National Congress Rejects Submissive Solutions

The 112-nat Palestine National Congress held its sixth session in Cairo September 6 by reiterating the rejection by the Palestinian people of all submissive solutions and their determination to liberate occupied Palestine through armed struggle.

The congress asserted that the Palestine revolution will be escalated to achieve victory and establish a democratic state in Palestine, free of all forms of racial or ethnic discrimination.

Following is the text of the communiqué:

« The Palestine National Congress held its sixth session in Cairo between September 1 and 6 and was attended by representatives of the following Palestinian forces and organizations:

« Independents; the Palestine Liberation Army and the Popular Liberation Forces; The Palestine National Liberation Movement, al-Fatah; The Vanguard of the Popular Liberation War (Sa'eqa); the Popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine; the Popular Struggle Front for the Liberation of Palestine; the Arab Palestine Organization; the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (General Command); and Palestinian students, workers, writers and women federations.

The stage in which this congress session was held was characterized by great importance in view of the circumstances through which the armed struggle is passing. In fact, the beginning of the transformation towards an all-embracing popular war inside our occupied Land is surrounded by an atmosphere of conspiracies being concocted by the different forces of the enemy as well as by the counter-revolutionary forces.

« The forces which were represented at the National Congress in this session constituted a step on the road towards more comprehensive revolutionary liberation. It was seen to it that the Palestinian forces which are active in the field of the armed struggle came to participate along with the federations and trade unions as well

as qualified people who are known for their work in the national field.

No Submissive Solutions

« The Congress resolutions reaffirmed the insistence of the Palestinian people on rejecting all submissive solutions, especially the U.N. Security Council resolution of November 22, 1967. It emphasized that the aim of the Palestinian revolution is to achieve complete and comprehensive liberation of Palestinian Homeland from the occupation of Zionism and its base, Israel, as well as from the international forces of imperialism standing behind them. The Congress declared the Palestinian people's determination to pursue the revolution until victory is achieved and a Palestinian democratic state is established, free from all forms of racial and ethnic discrimination.

« The Congress also affirmed that the method of revolution is armed struggle supported by all other forms of struggle to restore the usurped Land. The tool of the revolution is the masses of the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territory supported by the mounting participation of the struggling Arab masses of the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territory supported by the mounting participation of the struggling Arab masses as well as all the forces of liberation and progress in the world.

Independence of Action

« The Congress emphasized in all its discussions and debates the independence of Palestinian action and rejected all attempts to impose on it restrictions, domination or tutelage. The Congress did not overlook the nationalist and humanitarian facts of the Palestinian revolution in its being part of the Arab revolution as well as of the international liberation movement.

« The delivery of the Phantom planes to Israel by the United States, leader of international imperialism, is but a new evidence of the extent of collusion between international imperialism and Zionism and the danger they pose to all countries

in the Arab homeland from the (Atlantic) Ocean to the (Arabian) Gulf through their base 'Israel'.

« In order to confront this imperialist-Zionist challenge, the Arab masses are bound to stand in a united front to protect the Palestinian revolution and support our people in occupied Palestine and urge the Arab governments to undertake their duties towards the Palestinian revolution, especially by meeting their financial commitments to the Palestine Liberation Organization.

National Unity

« The Congress paid special attention to the subject of national unity (of the Palestinian people) and emphasized its eagerness to continue the efforts to achieve it in the most perfect manner so that the revolution until victory is achieved will be an effective tool in escalating and developing the armed struggle.

« The Congress recommended that measures for the unification of the financial levy system be completed, especially in Jordan. It also recommended the consolidation and development of the Palestine Liberation Army in accordance with the requirements of

the coming phases.

« The Congress entrusted the Palestinian Red Crescent with the task of providing medical services to all (Palestinian) fighters and charged the Executive Committee (of the PLO) with the responsibility of increasing care offered to the families of martyrs and wounded.

« The Congress discussed the means to bolster the technological aspect of the revolution and the importance of planning, programming and statistics as a basis for revolutionary action in theory and practice. It decided to bolster the Palestine Research Center with the necessary resources and qualifications.

Revolution Court

« Among the most important decisions of the Congress was the establishment of a Revolutionary Court which will be the only authority to pass sentences which would ensure the rule of justice and security of the revolution as well as to foil all sabotage attempts which are inspired and masterminded by the enemy and his agents.

« The Congress resolved to intensify fully with the liberation movements in

ISRAELIS VIEW RETURN TO MILITARY RULE TO QUELL GROWING ARAB UNREST

HAIFA - Tougher measures, including a possible return to military government, was reported in mid-September under a new Israeli law which authorizes the government to quell growing unrest among the 330,000 Palestinian Arab citizens who have been under occupation since 1948.

Israeli sources told the Associated Press inside Israel's « borders » within four months had prompted officials to re-examine their alleged liberal policies toward the community of Palestinian Arab citizens under Israeli rule since 1948.

The specter of military government — which permits stringent measures such as deportation, house arrest and indefinite imprisonment before trial — has been rumored in the press and in government circles dealing with Palestinian Arabs.

For months government spokesmen have strenuously

denied Israel is considering a return to military government. But now the spokesmen, among them Shmuel Toleano, Arab Affairs adviser to the government, refused to deny or confirm the reports.

Since the 1967 war, 90 young « Israeli Arabs » have been convicted of being in contact with the Palestinian commandos.

The Israeli police and the army recently ordered Mahmoud Darwish, outspoken Palestinian poet, to remain at home from day to dawn and report to a Haifa police station daily.

Darwish, an editor of the daily « al Ittihad », is the Palestinian poet most quoted in the Arab press.

Sources in a position to know say security men are weighing the likelihood of stiffer penalties for contact with commandos and other acts of resistance.

all parts of the Arab homeland and in the world. It sent greetings to all friendly people and countries as well as to the forces of liberation and progress in the world for their stand in support of the Palestinian people's struggle.

« The Congress also decided to send greetings and expressions of admiration to our struggling people in the occupied Land for their steadfastness in the face of Zionist occupation, emphasizing that these masses are the only guarantee for the success of the revolution.»

480 Operations Carried Out in August

An all-time high of 480 military operations were undertaken against the enemy in occupied Palestine during the month of August by the seven commando organizations affiliated to the Palestinian Armed Struggle Command (PASC).

PASC includes: 1. The Palestinian Liberation Army 2. The Popular Liberation Forces 3. ASSIFA forces of the Palestine National Liberation Movement, al-Patch 4. The Sa'eqa 5. The Popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine 6. The Arab Liberation Front 7. The Independent Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

The 480 operations in August, the overwhelming majority of which were carried out by ASSIFA, were covered in 29 PASC communiqués. Highlights of the August operations were as follows:

1. Destruction and damage of 323 military vehicles.
2. Destruction and hitting of 131 barracks, ambushes and posts.
3. Destruction and putting out of service of 117 gun emplacements.
4. Destruction and putting out of service of 23 bridges, culverts and railway tracks.
5. Destruction of a d blasting of 14 ammunition depots and fuel dumps.
6. Destruction and sabotage of 49 different installations.
7. Destruction and sabotage of 20 power generators, water pumps and electric lines.

U.S. Arms Aggressor

WASHINGTON — The United States has delivered superpower F 4E Phantom jets to Israel and deliveries will continue over the next 12 months.

The State Department confirmed Sept. 6 that the initial batch of the sophisticated fighter-bombers was ferried to the Zionist state. The total number involved is 56.

At least a dozen Israeli pilots have completed training in the U.S. to fly the Phantoms, capable of twice the speed of sound.

Israel is reported to have made soundings about buying an additional 100 U.S. aircraft, to meet its expansionist needs and police the area.

8. Putting out of service of 3 engineering installation set-ups.

9. Blasting and sabotage of 3 military factories.

10. Downing of two planes.

11. Demolishing and sabotage of the headquarters of the military governors in Hebron, Qalqilya, Bethlehem, Nablus and Gaza.

12. Dynamiting and sabotage of the (Zionist) Labor Offices in al-Brei, Bethlehem, Nablus and Gaza.

13. Attack and sabotage of the Inter-Continental Hotel in Jerusalem and of a bank and a company east of the Gaza Strip.

14. Destruction of crude oil pipelines in Haifa and of a parking lot there.

15. Blowing up of an airstrip and a chemicals storehouse.

Commando casualties in the August Operations were 28 killed and 36 injured.

Life : Yes Regret : No

LYDDA — An Israeli military court here sentenced a 26 year old Palestinian carpenter to life imprisonment on Sept. 17 for alleged complicity in a bomb explosion which injured 28 people in Jerusalem last March.

The carpenter, Ibrahim Samara, from occupied Nablus, was accused of playing the main role in planning the explosion. The court said the accused was denied mitigating circumstances because he « expressed no regret. »

• THE IMPOSSIBLE •

The Poetry of Resistance in Occupied Palestine

Poetry can seldom be translated without losing much of its originality and impact. This is certainly true of poems translated from Arabic and composed by Palestinian Arab poets who have endured the yoke of Zionist occupation of their homeland for over 21 years.

Most of these Palestinian Arab poets, now living under occupation, were caught in the tragedy of their uprooted country in their childhood or adolescence. They have been dubbed as « Israeli Arabs who have learned to accept Israel as a fact. »

Their poems refute the claim — particularly that each line was a warrant for imprisonment.

The anguish, hope and prophesy expressed in their verses is sufficient proof that the struggle for the liberation of Palestine, from within and beyond, has never stopped.

In fact, popular poetry played a big role in the history of Palestine since the 1920's and was famous all over the Arab World.

Nearly every Palestinian knows and recites the following popular lyric which was extemporized by a Palestinian struggler just before he was executed by the British Mandatory authorities in 1936.

Night: let the captive finish his song,
By dawn his wing will flutter
And the hanged one will swing
With the wind.

Night : lessen your pace,
Let me pour my heart to you.
Perhaps you forgot who I am
And what my troubles are.

Pity, how my hours have slipped
Down your hands.

Do not think I weep from fear,
My tears are for my country
And for a bunch of unfledged kids
Hungry at home
Without their father.

Who will feed them after me ?
My two brothers
Before me swung on the scaffold.

And how will my wife spend her days
Lonely and in tears ?
I did not even leave a bracelet
Round her wrist
When my country cried for arms.

Popular lyrics dominated the scene for almost ten years after the 1948 Exodus before any well-developed literature of resistance appeared. It became the medium by which the occupied and oppressed Palestinians expressed themselves. It dominated every manifestation of their life, including weddings, mourning and social gatherings... Many popular poets were thrown in jail or placed under house arrest by the Zionist occupation forces.



Yet, as persecution mounted, the poetry of resistance consolidated itself to emerge with an astonishing revolutionary spirit completely free from the trend of sadness and lamentation which often characterized the poetry of exile.

In the poetry of resistance, love of a woman is completely integrated with love of the Homeland. All happenings are considered transitional and certainly conquerable. The enemy is a challenge and defiance which must be exposed and put face to face with the staunch and fearless spirit of the Palestine freedom fighters.

Here is such a poem of Palestinian resistance entitled « The Impossible » by Tewfik Zeyad:

It is much easier for you
To pass an elephant through a needle's eye
Or catch fried fish in galaxy,
Plough the sea,
Or humanize a crocodile,
Than to destroy by persecution
The shimmering glow of a belief
Or check our march
One single step.

As if we were a thousand prodigies
Spreading everywhere.
In Lidda
In Ramallah
In the Galilee.

Here we shall stay,
A wall upon your breast,
And in your throat we shall stick
A piece of glass,
A cactus thorn,
And in your eye
A blazing fire.

Here we shall stay,
A wall upon your breast,
Cleaning dishes in your bars,
Filling cups for your masters,
Sweeping your sooty kitchens,
To snatch a bite from your blue fangs
For our hungry children.

Here we shall stay,
A wall upon your breast,
Facing starvation,
Struggling with rags,
Defying,
Singing our songs,
Swarming the streets with our wrath,
Filling your dungeons with pride,
Rearing vengeance in new generations.

Like a thousand prodigies
We roam along
In Lidda,
In Ramallah,
In the Galilee.

Here we shall stay
Go then and drink the sea.
Here we shall stay
Unblinking sentinels on our earth and trees.
Here we shall stay
To ferment our cause as yeast does dough.
Here we shall stay with ice-cold nerves,
Red hell in our nerves and hearts.
We squeeze the rock to quench our thirst
And hurl starvation with dust,
But we shall not depart.
Here we shall spill our dearest blood.
Here we have
A past
A future
Here we are the unconquerable.
So strike deep, strike deep,
My roots.

Israelis Seal off Hebron Alleys
After Attempt on Governor's Life

HEBRON — Israeli occupation troops and police sealed off the winding alleys of a teeming Palestinian Arab marketplace here September 11 in search for commandos who tried to kill the Israeli military governor.

Dozens of Palestinian Arabs were rounded up and taken for interrogation to the Israeli governor's headquarters behind tall barbed wire fences on a hill overlooking this occupied town.

The governor, Lt. Col. Ofer Ben David, escaped harm September 10 when a grenade was tossed into his small military sedan in the old market. The grenade failed to explode, but the Israeli occupation authorities immediately clamped a curfew on the area and began picking up suspects.

Hebron, a sun baked town of 60,000 Palestinians, lies 25 miles south of Jerusalem and about the same distance west of the Dead Sea. It has been a hotbed of Palestinian resistance since the occupation, with repeated shootings and grenade attacks.

Soon after sunrise September 11, Israeli occupation troops took up positions around the market and blocked off the narrow alleys with armored cars. No one was allowed to enter as the occupation troops rounded up more Palestinian Arabs for questioning.

Governor Ben David declined to receive newsmen in the well guarded military compound.

But an Israeli Defense Ministry spokesman said the curfew has not been lifted. He stressed it had been « a security measure to protect the lives of the people, not a punitive action. »

No official estimate was available of the number of Palestinian Arabs held for interrogation. « The questioning is going on, » the occupation spokesman said.

OURS IS A
REVOLUTION
UNTIL
VICTORY

Al-Fateh Commandos Escalate

(Continued from page 1)

ter clearing it completely from enemy forces and the Palestinian flag was raised at two locations. All enemy military installations in and around the town were destroyed before the pullout.

The new strategy was also implemented at the battle of Shasha'a and the battle of Jirzem.

Though only eight commandos were engaged in the battle of Jirzem in the Nabhus area last night, the enemy had to resort to his heavy artillery, air force and napalm rockets. The enemy's reaction to the battle of Jirzem was to deploy his military might not only to end the battle quickly — which he failed — but to discourage the escalation of commando operations into the new strategy.

The escalation of commando action went unabated. On June 24, 1969, A S S I F A commandos struck deep inside occupied territory when they struck up the Haifa crude oil pipeline sending flames and smoke leaping over its Bay. Six days later, on June 30, ASSIFA met, struck in the heart of Tel Aviv. They seized at enemy vehicle, lauded it with 120 kilograms of TNT and parked it midway between Tel Aviv's two main streets — Dizengoff and Ben Yehou da. The charge rocked the city, damaged the neighbouring buildings and stores and brought down telephone and electric lines.

On July 15, a second 75-minute attack was launched on the occupied town of al-Himneh. On July 23, ASSIFA explosive charges rock and legged his terminal in Petah Tikva road in the center of Tel Aviv. Two days later, ASSIFA explosive charges went on in Haifa's Paris square.

On August 3, an Israeli military camp (Tel-mahour) east of Tel el-Furs settlement in the occupied Golan Heights of Syria was overrun by ASSIFA commandos and held for a whole night.

On August 8, Operation "Green Belt" was marked another landmark in the history of the Palestinian armed struggle. On that day, Palestinian flags were hoisted and pam-

phlets distributed at several locations falling in a triangular area covering New Ur, Yardena and Bet Yosef settlements in the Northern Jordan Valley (south of The Sea of Galilee) in the most daring and spectacular Palestinian commando attack against Israeli occupation forces since the Liberation War started.

Operation Green Belt was undertaken jointly by commandos from ASSIFA, the Kadisiyyah unit of the Palestine Liberation Army, and the Popular Liberation Forces.

The operation covered a seven-kilometer stretch between Wadi Beera and Wadi Esha in the northern Jordan Valley. The attack covered three Israeli settlements — New Ur, Yardena, and Bet Yosef — as well as three military posts: Tel Moussa, Tel Ismail and Nakess 224 all of which are fortified and supported by artillery and tanks. Prior to the offensive, the Palestinian commandos were able to cut reinforcement routes to six locations, three to the north in Beera between Samakh - Beisan road and the Jordan River and three others to the south in Wadi Esha.

The attack was three-pronged. One Unit attacked Yardena settlement and Nakess 224 Post, a second took charge of New Ur settlement and Tel Moussa Unit while the third unit moved against Bet Yosef settlement and Tel Ismail Post. Torpedoes were used to get through the defences comprising mine fields, electric barbed wires and electronic fences. The gaps opened by the torpedoes allowed the Palestinian freedom fighters to break into the settlements and military posts.

The Palestinian commandos completely controlled all posts assigned to them and proceeded to blow up the vital installations falling within these specified targets.

Palestinian flags were hoisted at all controlled areas. Pamphlets in Hebrew were also distributed.

Exactly a week later, on August 15, the daring A S S I F A commandos struck deep inside occu-

Their Operations As Resistance Mounts in Occupied Palestine

pled Palestine, blowing up oil installations near the port city of Haifa for the second time in less than two months.

On August 24, ASSIFA commandos executed Operation "Spearhead" against Suwaymah post and neighboring enemy positions north of the Dead Sea after a preliminary mortar barrage. Despite the enemy's tank, artillery and rocket fire, the ASSIFA guerrillas destroyed the post, killing and wounding its occupants. Enemy attempts to evacuate casualties by helicopters were unsuccessful.

On August 26, occupied Jerusalem suffered its first rocket attack. Israeli helicopters searching for the point of attack discovered a nest of 13 Katyusha launcher pads still armed on a rocky hillside four kilometers southeast of Jerusalem. The enemy estimated that between 15 and 30 commandos must have carried the missiles up the barren slope. Three days later, a six-square mile area in Bet-Sahour where the launcher pads were found was sealed off by the Israeli occupation troops and placed under an indefinite around-the-clock curfew. According to Tad Saule (New York Times of August 30) the move to close the Beit Sahour zone "emphasized the growing Israeli concern with internal security problems from accelerated guerrilla activities."

On September 4, ASSIFA commandos inflicted punishing casualties and damage on Israeli forces in a series of heavy night battles in the Jordan River's desert.

September assault as follows:

"The commandos, wearing leopard-spotted camouflage uniforms and carrying Commando-made assault pistols, rocket launchers and explosive charges, slipped across the cease-fire line under cover of darkness."

"They attacked a string of 12 Israeli posts along a 13-mile front, according to a statement issued here by the Palestinian Armed Struggle Command. Simultaneously rockets were pumped into Israeli army camps at Jiftik and Oujia.

"When Israeli armor moved in a commando rearguard fought a delaying action to enable their comrades to make good their retreat. Commando losses were five dead and seven wounded — four of the dead and five of the wounded being among the rearguard — the communiqué said."

"The overnight commando attack conformed to a pattern of growing aggressiveness on the part of the Fedayeen, who are launching bigger and more frequent raids into Israeli-held territory."

In several recent raids they have abandoned their original hit-and-run tactics in favor of stand-up fights in which they have successfully held on to captured positions and beaten off Israeli counter-attacks."

"After the last comparable attack, operation 'Green Belt' in the same area, in which several Fedayeen groups cooperated last month, the Israelis retaliated by bombing the East Ghor Canal which supplies the eastern half of the valley with vital irrigation water."

A single commando spokesman said Wednesday night's commando offensive was two-pronged, one operation being code-named "The Bayonets of Fatah" and the other "the Good Earths."

The two operations were staged in a triangle of land lying east of the River Jordan and immediately south of Lake Tiberias. Some of the land had been held by the Israelis since 1948 and some captured in the 1967 June war.

"The commandos assigned to 'the Good Earth' launched a simultaneous attack on the town of al-Himneh after blowing gaps in the Israeli defensive positions. The attackers broke into the town and exploded charges at pre-planned targets."

"While fighting was raging in and around al-Himneh, other Fatah men fought their way into Tal al-Hamma post, one of the towns of the 'Bayonets of Fatah' group."

"This operation involved attacks on a string of Israeli outposts from Turku-mayyah in the North to Suwaymah in the south."

"Observers here said that, even allowing for an element of exaggeration in the successes claimed by any troops fighting a night action, the mounting tempo of commando attacks in the Jordan Valley must be putting an increasing strain on Israeli resources, especially when the Lebanese and Syrian cease-fire lines are growing more active."

The revolutionary struggle within the occupied homeland is also gaining momentum. Resistance and defiance to the occupation forces and demonstrations, in which the Palestinian women are playing a leading role, are witnessed daily in Jerusalem, Nabhus, Ramallah, Gaza, Hebron and the other Palestinian towns and cities.

Resistance in Gaza — despite the military, political and economic blockade imposed on the city — is stupendous. On August 13, Israeli Defense Ministry officials recognized

that Palestinian resistance in occupied Gaza had escalated the nature of their operations. Instead of planting mines, their most common type of operation in the past, they now opened fire and tossed grenades and also attempted to eliminate collaborators."

The participation of Palestinian Arabs under occupation since 1948 in the revolutionary struggle is also increasing. This was recognized by Francis Omer in the Christian Science Monitor of July 30.

Wrote Omer: "One question they (Palestinian Arabs under Israeli rule since 1948) were constantly asked was — 'what did you do for the Palestinian cause all these years?'"

"Most of the younger generation of Israeli Arabs (sic) seem to have been affected by the question — Their Palestinian awareness has become rekindled."

40 Stores Closed in Hebron While Travel Is Curbed, Stores Detained

JERUSALEM — A harsh Israeli clampdown on the occupied Hebron area in the West Bank curbed travel and banned the export of Palestinian farm produce.

"The punitive measures, imposed September 19, are the strictest yet by the occupation troops. They followed an increase in Palestinian resistance and commando activities in recent weeks and a visit to the district south of Jerusalem by Brig. Gen. Raphael Vardi, Israeli Military Governor of the occupied West Bank."

Checkpoints control the main approaches to Hebron which has a population of about 60,000 Christian and Muslim Palestinians and occupation troops are preventing all outgoing traffic from the city.

Under the new measures, Palestinian residents are not allowed to visit churches or mosques in Jerusalem without special permits.

One of the most recent attacks in the area was an attempt Sept. 10 on the life of the military governor, Lt. Col. Ofer Ben-David.

The mountainous region around Hebron has also been the scene of a series of commando and resistance night attacks on occupation patrols.

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